

RETIREE OFFICE NEWS – 171st ARW



Retiree Office
300 Tanker Road #4210
Coraopolis, PA 15108-4210
Phone: 412-776-7587 or
412-776-7538, Fax: 7441
BJKRIBERNEY@MSN.COM
Office Hours: Thursdays 0800 – 1200



“Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.” ~ Melody Beattie

Email Addresses: If you would like to hear about upcoming retiree news and events, please provide your email address to Bonnie Kriberney at bjkriberney@msn.com. *There are approximately a dozen non-deliverable emails that are being returned. Don't forget to keep me informed, if you change your email address/provider.*

Retiree Lunch: 3rd Monday in January, April, July, and October

When: CY 2014 - **October 20th**

When: CY 2015 - January 19th, April 20th, July 20th, and October 19th

Where: Golden Corral, 900 Park Manor Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(Near Mall at Robinson) (412) 788-1776

“Don't forget to ask for your military or senior discount!!!”

Time: 1100 hours

We average around 80 retirees at the luncheons. Come join the fun and catch up with old friends over a delicious lunch.

Hope to see you all at the next Retiree Luncheon on October 20th!

Retiree Office Closed:

The Retiree Office will be closed the week of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years.

Retirements: Congratulations to our recent retirees who retired from July 2014 through September 2014. Please do not hesitate to contact the Retiree Office, if you need assistance.

Rank	Last Name	First Name	Retired
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JUL 2014

TSG	ADAMS	RICKY	28-JUL-14
TSG	GEER	STEVEN	31-JUL-14

AUG 2014

SMS	LANE	DIANNA	28-AUG-14
SMS	WEAVER	SARAH	01-AUG-14
TSG	MCFEELEY	TODD	10-AUG-14
TSG	PERRY	RAYMOND	15-AUG-14

SEP 2014

CMS	COLELLA	RAYMOND	01-SEP-14
CMS	MCCOY	JOHN	01-SEP-14
TSG	MALLOY	MATTHEW	26-SEP-14
TSG	ROBERTSON	KEVIN	01-SEP-14
SSG	BELL	STANLEY	04-SEP-14

Sympathies: We extend 'Our Deepest Sympathy' to the families and relatives of the following retirees who passed away. Please inform our office if you hear of the passing of one of our fellow 171st, 112th, or 258TH members. Click on each name to view the obituary.

SMSgt Albert "Butch" J. Alimena Jr. - 12 Sep 2014 - Age 85 – 112TFG Munitions
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=172447363>

MSgt Franklin "Frank" D. Bable - 03 Aug 2014 - Age 73 – 112TFG Maintenance
<http://obituaries.expressiontributes.com/?mobile=b528338340>

MSgt Theodore "Ted" E. Helgerman - 26 Sep 2014 - Age 77 – 112TFG
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/butlereagle/obituary.aspx?pid=172619782>

TSgt Richard "Mike" Pushcar – 30 Sep 2014 - Age 73 – Supply, WRSK Section
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?pid=172743990>



Who: Greater Pittsburgh and Western PA region Veterans, Service Members and support agencies.

What: Steel City Salutes the Troops!

When: Saturday, November 8, 2014 – immediately following the Veterans' Day Parade

Where: Point State Park

Why: To commemorate our region's military history and to celebrate the service, sacrifices and opportunities made available by and for those who have and are serving.

Steel City Salutes the Troops 2014 will be the first veterans' open-house for the Western PA region. The event is intended to recognize and highlight the military presence and significance – both past and present – in this region's storied military history. The Pennsylvania National Guard is partnering with the capable staff of Point State Park to bring what has been a very successful event in downtown Philadelphia for four years to downtown Pittsburgh. We can't let Philly have the upper hand when it comes to showing our military pride and support, can we?

The basic premise for the event is to have military equipment from all branches on display for members of the community to see first-hand. Some of the equipment will be open for interactive tours and other areas will have activities set up, things like a climbing wall or a misting tent. This is our first-ever Steel City Salutes the Troops and we are hoping to make it as memorable as possible. The event is scheduled for the same day as the Veterans' Day Parade, which ends at the entrance to Point State Park. So the opportunities to celebrate our past and current service members will be great!

We also hope to have a mass multi-service swearing-in at the event. Thus affording us the ability to celebrate our future service members!

There are a few areas where we need support in order to make this day a success. We are looking for live televised coverage of the event as well as radio coverage. Earlier it was mentioned that this is something we are bringing over from Philly. Well, in Philadelphia, the local Fox affiliate sponsors the event, broadcasting their morning news program live from the event. In fact, last year's broadcast was the most-watched morning news hour on the East Coast. It surpassed the ratings of national shows like Good Morning America and The Today Show!

We would also like help in getting the word out about this event. As this is a military event, we are significantly limited in resources. We don't have an advertising campaign to utilize to spread the news and gain public interest. It would be wonderful to know that those we are contacting are helping in this effort by informing other military and veteran organizations about the event.

Likewise, we'd like help in reaching out to veteran-owned businesses and businesses and services that support veterans in the area. We would love to be able to offer these organizations the opportunity to have a presence at the event – be it a tent, table or otherwise. There may be a fee involved in order to cover the expenses incurred, but that has yet to be determined.

Lastly, as expenses have been mentioned, we are looking for sponsors to help offset any costs. We will have to rent restroom facilities, provide recycling collection and removal, contract trash removal, rent a stage and audio system and more. It would be wonderful to have sponsorship that covers the costs of these items.

Thank you for your support of the veteran population in the Greater Pittsburgh region. We are a humble audience with a storied history. Please join us in celebrating this together!

Respectfully,



KAREN R. BOGDAN, Maj. PaANG
171st Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Officer
2014 Steel City Salutes the Troops Event Coordinator
412-776-7779
karen.bogdan@ang.af.mil

Wright-Patterson AFB Pharmacy Prescription Pick-Up Program:

The Retiree Office currently coordinates a monthly pick-up of prescriptions from WPAFB Pharmacy for approximately 65 retirees and dependents. There are no costs for formulary medications and over-the-counter medications obtained from a Military Treatment Facility (MTF). You can check your medications by using the Tricare Formulary Search Tool online at http://pec.ha.osd.mil/fst/formulary_search_results.php. Please refer to the July 2014 Retiree News for more information on Tricare formulary and non-formulary medications.

- A yearly schedule is provided for prescriptions due dates, pick-up dates, and distribution dates.
- Prescriptions are distributed in the Retiree Office on the first Thursday of each month, unless it falls on a holiday it will be rescheduled.
- A donation of \$1 to \$2 for each prescription is requested to cover the cost of the prescription pick-up each. The amount collect is determined by the quantity of prescriptions each month. The donation collected covers:
 - Priority mail costs to send new prescriptions to the pharmacy
 - Gas and Two Meals
 - Two retirees, a driver and helper
 - WPAFB is approximately 500 miles round trip
 - The drive and pharmacy pick-up takes at approximately 12 hours
- Retirees in the prescription program, who are capable of driving, are expected to take a turn driving to WPAFB Pharmacy for the prescription pick-up no more than once a year.
- Prescriptions are distributed in the Retiree Office from 8 a.m. to 1100 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month. If the distribution date falls on a holiday, the day will be rescheduled.

If you are interested in signing up for the prescription program, please call the Retiree Office at 412-776-7587 or stop in on any Thursday.

WPAFB Prescription Schedule for Nov & Dec 2014:

November:

20 Nov – new scripts due in the office NLT 11:30 a.m.

04 Dec – distribution date for November prescriptions

December:

18 Dec – new scripts due in the office NLT 11:30 a.m.

08 Jan – distribution date for December prescriptions

Moon Military Commissary & Post Exchange Update as of 16 Oct

“Highlights from C.E. Kelly Oakdale Commissary”:

Break out the sparkling cider! On Tuesday, Oct. 21, we're opening your new store, the Pittsburgh Area Commissary at 79 Soldiers Lane, Coraopolis, conveniently located near the airport. Following a 10a.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony, both the commissary and the Exchange will open. Your C.E. Kelly Oakdale Commissary's last day will be Oct. 18 and we will close at 5p.m., then as we prepare to open your new store.

Your new Pittsburgh Area Commissary is more than twice the size of your C.E. Kelly Commissary, and its features produce, meat and grocery departments--a stock assortment of 18,000 items. And you'll want to check out our new features: an international delicatessen and bakery, rotisserie chicken and custom-made sandwiches. The store has five regular and four self-checkouts and more than 200 parking spaces, all on the same level as the store.

Our grand opening will be a fun day. The theme is a tailgate party, and our vendors will be grilling tasty BBQ outside. Inside you'll find special pricing on featured products and drawings for prizes and commissary gift cards. Our days of operation and store hours will remain the same. The new store is located along the major thoroughfare near the Pittsburgh Airport. Starting Oct. 21 you can find us on <http://www.commissaries.com> under the locations tab as the **“Pittsburgh Area Commissary”**.

The new Pittsburgh Area Commissary and PX are located at the corner of University Boulevard and the Interstate 376 Business Route in Moon Township.

The address for the new commissary is:

Defense Commissary Agency
79 Soldiers Lane
Moon Township, PA 15108

Still Collecting - Civil Air Patrol needs serviceable military clothing and equipment:

The Civil Air Patrol Squadron 603, (located on the 911th Air Force Reserve Base), would gladly accept all serviceable Air Force military clothing and equipment you have that is no longer needed for both males and females. The Cadets wear the older Air Force blues as well as the woodland camouflage BDU. They can use just about anything you may have to include items such as the BDU Uniforms (field jackets/shirts/pants/belts/hats/boots), Blues Uniform (jackets/shirts/pants/belts/hats/low quarters), canteens, ribbon racks, web belts, etc.

If you have any military clothing or equipment that you can donate, you can either:

1. Drop them off at the 171ARW Retiree Office on any Thursday
2. Bring them to the next Retiree Luncheon on Monday, October 20th
3. Call Brian Finnegan in Moon Township at (412) 915-0352 to arrange a pick-up

Thank you!

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND LINKS:

171st Air Refueling Wing: <http://www.171arw.ang.af.mil/>

911th AW Casualty Assistance Office: (412) 474-8558, Fax: (412) 474-8987

Address: 911th FSS/FSMPS, 2475 Defense Ave, Bldg 316, Rm 112, Coraopolis, PA 15108

Email contact: Martin W. Patterson, <mailto:martin.patterson.1@us.af.mil>

Provides assistance to a retiree/spouse/dependent upon the passing of a retired military member or dependent in processing the required documentation and survivor benefits.

Air Force Retiree Services: <http://www.retirees.af.mil/>

AMC Space-A Travel: <http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/index.asp>

Department of Veteran Affairs (VA): <http://www.va.gov/> or 1-800-827-1000

Express Scripts – TRICARE Pharmacy: <http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/>
Toll-Free within the U.S.: 1-877-363-1303

Retired and Annuitant Pay:

For news updates, general information, and forms: visit the Retired Pay Site, **Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) – Retired Military & Annuitants**
<http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary.html>

- Questions about your retired or annuity pay account: 1-800-321-1080, Press 1 then 4, Press 0 (zero) for operator.
- Reporting a Death or Following-Up on a Claim: 1-800-321-1080, Press 1, then Press 1 again, Enter social security number.

For specific questions: AskDFAS <https://corpweb1.dfas.mil/askDFAS/askRA.jsp>

For discussion on retired pay issues: Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/DefenseFinanceandAccountingService?ref=ts>

Military.com/Benefits: <http://www.military.com/benefits>

Military.com free membership sign-up:

http://www.military.com/Registration/Universal_Registration_Page?ESRC=TAF.bb

myPay: <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> or 1-888-332-7411 Option 5

TRICARE Health Insurance Coverage & Benefits Plans: <http://www.tricare.mil>

Tricare North Region – Health Net Federal Services: 1-877-874-2273

TRICARE For Life: 1-866-773-0404

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Retiree Assistance: 1-877-968-3778